

collections. When issued the work will be a most important contribution to bibliography. It will not only inform the student of sources of information, but also prevent unnecessary and often expensive duplication, the possessions of one library being at the service of the patrons of the others, of course under the rules governing the several associations.

The October meeting of the Pennsylvania Library Club was held in the hall of the Academy. Your Librarian made a communication on the history and resources of the library, concluding with a short contribution to paleontological history, which, while not germane to the objects of the Club, seemed to interest those in attendance.

Dr. Sharp reports that the lantern slides of which he has charge now number 980. The collection embraces subjects in all departments of natural history and furnishes most desirable illustrations for the courses of lectures delivered under the auspices of the Academy.

It again gives me pleasure to acknowledge the efficiency of my assistant, Mr. William J. Fox.

EDWARD J. NOLAN,
Librarian.

REPORT OF THE CURATORS.

The general collections, with all the additions of the year in the care of the Curators, are in an excellent state of preservation.

A large amount of work has been accomplished since the last report in rearranging the specimens in the old building.

The dry invertebrates have been placed in new cases, so far as they could be arranged therein, though some of the geographic series have had to be temporarily stored in packing cases. The display series has been cleansed and entirely relabelled.

The remaining cases in the upper gallery have been removed from the damp walls, which have been whitened, thus securing additional light.

The many large specimens of minerals formerly displayed in the gallery have been placed in a case on the first floor where they have been labelled and arranged to much better advantage.

On the floor devoted to the mammals in the new building, a new mahogany and plate-glass case has been provided for the Carnivora,

and another large one for Ungulates through the Mary Jeanes Fund, while another case of similar character has been presented by Dr. Francis W. Lewis for the reception of birds on the upper floor.

Four large storage cases have been provided for mammal skins, and placed on the fifth floor of the new building.

In the department of Archæology, Mr. Clarence B. Moore has presented one upright mahogany case with plate-glass sides and shelves, and one horizontal case for the accommodation of his rapidly increasing collection, and Dr. Dixon has provided a showcase for the display of certain human remains.

Besides these additions, considerable work has been done in improving the building, the entire vestibule on Race street having been repainted, and the lavatories all completely renovated, and modern fittings introduced.

Through the liberality of Mr. Clarence B. Moore, our museum has, for the first time in its history, been thrown open to the public on Sundays between the hours of one and five o'clock. This innovation has met with popular approval, the attendance of visitors being very large, and composed mainly of persons who would otherwise have been unable to view the collections.

The progress in adding to, rearranging, classifying, labelling and caring for the collections during the year has been satisfactory.

The Conservators of the several Sections have devoted much time to the care and classification of the specimens in their respective departments. Valuable work has been performed by Dr. H. A. Pilsbry in the Conchological; by Messrs. Thomas Meehan and Stewardson Brown in the Botanical; by Dr. Henry Skinner, Dr. Philip P. Calvert and Mr. Charles Liebeck in the Entomological, and Messrs. Lewis Woolman and Theodore D. Raud in the Geological departments.

Rev. L. T. Chamberlain, special Curator of the Isaac Lea collection of Eocene Mollusca, has continued to add valuable material during the year, bringing the total number of entries up to 5,161. Dr. Chamberlain has now enlarged the scope of the collection to include the Oligocene. About one hundred and sixty species from the Vicksburg and Red Bluff horizons have been already incorporated, while much foreign Oligocene material, not yet labelled, is on hand. He proposes to send a collector to the principal exposures to procure new material. Mr. C. W.

Johnson has continued his work on the collection, completing the arrangement of the Eocene material.

Mr. Theodore D. Rand, special Curator, has spent much time in the arrangement and cataloguing of the William S. Vaux collection of minerals. These services are more specifically set forth in the reports of the several sections. Important service has also been rendered by Mr. Witmer Stone, assistant to the Curators, in all departments of the museum, especially in that of Ornithology. Assistance in the arrangement and care of the collections has also been received from the students of the Jessup Fund. Mr. H. W. Fowler has made a systematic study of many of the families of fishes in the collection, and identified a large number of unlabelled specimens. Mr. E. G. Vanatta has done excellent work on the mollusca and other invertebrates; Mr. S. H. Hamilton on the minerals and Mr. A. F. Satterthwait on the insects.

The additions to the collections during the year have been important.

The valuable Hoopes collection of North American Birds renders the Academy's material in this department equal to any in the world. A series of American birds presented by Dr. S. W. Woodhouse contains much of historic interest.

The collection of local fishes received from Mr. H. W. Fowler, comprising several thousands of specimens, is a valuable accession, containing in large series many forms previously but poorly represented in the museum.

The series of painted casts of American snakes presented by Mr. Clarence B. Moore is equal to any other such representation of Ophidia in this country.

The Zoölogical Society of Philadelphia has presented many valuable specimens, the mounting of which by the Academy's preparator illustrates strikingly the advance in taxidermic art, when compared with the objects formerly composing the cabinets.

Specimens have been loaned during the year to Lewis Woolman, F. L. Scribner, G. A. Boulenger, J. M. Coulter, G. S. Miller, H. M. Smith, W. H. Osgood, T. Wayland Vaughan, Robert Ridgway, H. C. Oberholser, J. Dwight, Jr., R. H. Howe and C. L. Lochman.

HENRY C. CHAPMAN,
Chairman.